(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस संबंध में कब तक कार्यवाही किये जाने की संभावना है?

खाद्य मंत्री (श्री अजित सिंह): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Demand to Enhance Allocation of Rice to Tamil Nadu

765. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice allotted to Tamil Nadu per month under PDS;

(b) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has made a demand for allotment of more rice proportionate to the population; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to meet its demand?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The present monthly allocation of rice to Tamil Nadu is 1.25 lakh metric tonnes.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. In the month of February, 1995 the Govt. of Tamil Nadu had requested for increase in allocation of rice from one lakh tonnes per month to 1.25 lakh tonnes per month due to slow progress in procurement of paddy. The Central Government has increased the monthly allocation of rice, on adhoc basis, to the State to 1.25 lakh tonnes per month from April, 1995.

US Pullout from Uruguay Round

766. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article published in the Hindu of 4th July, 1995 that US Pullout from Uruguay round hits India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Negotiations on financial services and the movement of natural persons, scheduled to be completed by 30th June, 1995 finally concluded on 28th July, 1995. The US had taken the position that in the area of financial services it will be taking an MFN exemption. To deal with this situation a proposal was mooted by EU that all members agree to a fixed term arrangement under which members other than U.S. will extend MFN treatment in financial services. This proposal was generally endorsed by all members and as a result for a period valid upto 31.12.97 members have tabled their modified market access schedules in the financial services sector, with improvements in certain cases. In the case of some countries including India their offers contain certain limitations vis-a-vis the MFN principle. India has taken sufficient safeguards to deal with the situation arising out of the U.S. position. Offers on movement of natural persons have, however, been tabled by member countries including U.S. on MFN basis. India is likely to benefits from the agreement on movement of natural persons and its position is not likely to be adversely affected by the U.S. position on financial services.

Loopholes in PDS Network

767. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report appearing in The Statesman dated 20th July, 1995 under the caption "Loopholes in PDS network spell doom for tribals";